Ц	tion Form  Study Area Code Study Area Name Study Area Name Program Year Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email	
	90CT 2 4 2013  FIGE form 48.1  9360-986/GMB Cantrol No. 3060-986/GMB Cantrol No. 3060-88.9  MT. RUSHWORE TEL. Co. 2014  Mark Aaberg  320-847-7109  maabergshcinet.net	

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<1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.	<1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,	"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:    Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,		<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans	<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	<020> Program Year  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data line  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data line  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data line  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data line  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  <030>	<010> Study Area Code <015> Study Area Name	(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers Lifeline Data Collection Form
			HTTP	Name of attached document (.pdf)	ne <030> maaberg@hcinet.net	Mark Aaberg	MT. RUSHMORE TEL. CO. 2014	OCT 2.4.2013  FEG. Form 481  ONB Control No. 3059-0986/24/8-C-1493 No. 4350 H219  July 2013

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3 Page 10	ממט

community anchor institutions to which began provious service in the preceding calendar year.  <2021> Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions	Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e))  3rd year Broadband Service Certification  5th year Broadband Service Certification  5th year Broadband Service Certification  72019> Interim Progress Certification  72020> Please check the box to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 2021,  72020> Contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient contains the required information pursuant to \$54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number.	Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support (47 CFR § 54.313(d)) <2016> Certification Support Used to Build Broadband	Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(a))  2013 Frozen Support Certification  2013 2014 Frozen Support Certification  2014 2015 Frozen Support Certification  2015 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification	Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting <2010> 2nd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)) <2011> 3rd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2))	the boxes below to note comp	Person USAC should contact regarding this data MAZY hone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	Study Area Name Program Year	<010> Study Area Code MT RUSHMORE TEL: CO.	(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation Dara Collection Form Including Nate-of-Return Carriers offiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers Including Nate-of-Return Carriers offiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers
Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information					liance as a recipient of incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge redisance as a recipient of incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge redisance as a recipient of incremental Connect America Phase I support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e) the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.	maaberg@hcinet.net		B TEL. CO.	PCC Poim 483 OAMB Control Biny 2013
					juctions, and Connect America Phase II				FCC Mail Room Bronnel No. 3060-9580/0MBControl No. 3060-9519, 2013

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Bits Collection Form  391660  -O105 Study Area Code MT. RUSHMORE TEL. COO155 Study Area Name -O156 Study Area Name -O157 Contact Rame - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Mark Aabexg -O158 Contact Telephone Number: Number of person identified in data line <0300 320-847-7109 -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maabexgehcinet.net -O159 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0300 maakex - Tell Contact - Tel	PLU formula:
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			mpliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47
CX th	ECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 4) Crx 9 3-4-44-13 11-13 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 1	. Its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 Crx § 3***********************************	d below is accurate.
	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan	None of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
010)	$\S$ 54.313(f)(1)(i)} n that the attached PDF , on line 3012,	Name of Auduled Documents and of	
011)	contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.		
012)	Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2))	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	(Yes/No)
014)	If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report lease check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance		1
3015)	requires. Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)		
3016)	PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		
3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	[Yes/No]
je Se			
(3019)			
(3020)			
(3021)			1
	If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2),		3
1000	contains:  Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a independent certified public accountant for Telecommunications		[
•			
300			
(3024)	<ul> <li>public accountant</li> <li>Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.</li> </ul>		
(3025)		notes that Decement Listing Required Information	391660SD3026
		Name of Attached Programme	

Received & Inspected

OCT 2 4 2013

FCC Mail Room

10/10/2013

# OCT 242013

## FCC Mail Room

Certificat Data Coll	ion - Reporting Carri ection Form	er — симв' саптог и и забо-ова/ОМВ Centrol и и 3060-0819 — July 2015 —
<010>	Study Area Code	391660
<015>	Study Area Name	MT. RUSHMORE TEL. CO.
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>		on USAC should contact regarding this data  Mark Aaberg
<035>		lumber - Number of person identified in data line <0302
<039>	Contact Email Addre	ss - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> maabergencinet.net

# TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

ts for universal service support  Date 10/10/2013
Date 10/10/2013
Date 10/10/2013
§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonme

# OCT 24 2013

## FCC Mail Room

Certificati Data Colle	on - Agent / Carrier action Form	ECC Fejrin 481.  By OMB Control No. 3060-0816/OMB Control No. 3060-0819.  July 2013
		391660
<010>	Study Area Code	
<015>	Study Area Name	MT. RUSHMORE TEL. CO.
<020>	Program Year	2014
	Contact Name - Perso	n USAC should contact regarding this data Mark Aaberg
<035>		imber - Number of person identified in data line <030> 320-847-7109
<039>		s - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> maaberg@hcinet.net

# TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

	ithorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier  is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the subhorized.
certify that (Name of Agent) also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports a	my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the additionable
Name of Authorized Agent:	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	Date:
Signature of Authorized Officer:	
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
	Filing Due Date for this form:  In can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment  Application of the United States Code. 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

## TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent	Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipien	ts on Behalf of Reporting Carrier
, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am aut the data reported herein based on data provided by the	horized to submit the annual reports for universal service support re reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information	ecipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided on reported herein is accurate.
Name of Reporting Carrier:		
lame of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:		Date:
signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:		
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent		
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Age		
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of	Agent:	
A A CONTRACTOR	Filing Due Date for this form:	process and a support and the support and a support of the support
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:  Persons willfully making false statements on this fo	rm can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under

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OCT 2 4 2013

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Attachments

			Middle Point Telephone
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	Telephone Service Company	300659	
	-	361515	gimbrota Telephone
	Starbuck Telephone	361487	
	ear	361476	Telephone
	Clara City Telephone	361660	City Telephone
nation		SAC	Affiliates
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			<812> Operating Company
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	,		Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>
			Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data
			Program Year
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			391660
	101/2018		Data Collection Form
STORY RECEIVE	FCCTom 481 OMBControl No. 3057-0985,00M #2010 (N.M. 4010-0319		(800) Operating Companies
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#### Ft Randall Telephone

## FCC Mail Room

# Certification of Compliance with Applicable Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules

#### Service Quality Standards

#### The Company:

- Provides voice grade access to the public switched network.
- Provides flat rated local exchange service with no additional charge to end users.
- Provides access to the emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911.
- Provides toll blocking and toll limitation services.
- Advertises the availability of its services and the charges using media of general distribution and on its website.
- Maintains a business office providing customers with access to a customer service representative either in person or via a local telephone call or toll-free telephone number during normal business hours
- Directs after hour calls to the Company's help desk.
- Directs trouble reports to the on-call technician.
- Tracks all service orders to ensure they are completed in a timely manner.
- Measures its service connection and service interruption performance on a regular basis.
- Trains employees to:
  - o Answer all incoming calls promptly.
  - o Respond to all inquiries for information promptly and courteously.
  - Investigate thoroughly all customer complaints and handle appropriately according to the Company's guidelines for resolution of customer complaints.
  - Be knowledgeable about products and service offerings so they can assist the customer with selecting the best service option.
- Has a process for periodic inspection, testing and preventive maintenance of its equipment to permit the rendering of safe, adequate and continuous service at all times.

#### Consumer Protection Rules

The Company has established operating procedures designed to facilitate compliance with applicable consumer protection rules which include compliance with the Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) rules. The operating procedures include:

- Appointment of a compliance officer.
- A manual detailing the specific procedures for protecting consumer information.
- Employee training on an annual basis.
- A disciplinary process for improper use of consumer information.

## Received & Inspected

## Ft Randall Telephone

OCT 24 2013

FCC Mail Room

## Functionality in Emergency Situations

## Back-Up Power

The Company has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source. Switch, Remote, and DLCs\_ all have minimum 8 hour battery backup. Switch and Remote have standby generators, and we have portable generators to provide power to DLC cabinets if needed.

## Rerouting of Traffic around Damaged Facilities

The Company is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Our regulated inter-exchange and intra-exchange traffic is on a SONET ring with diverse routing to prevent being isolated by a fiber cut.

#### Traffic Spikes

We have some unused switching capacity to handle sporadic traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations. We have 204 2-way trunks between Company and CenturyLink's Tandem for inter-exchange traffic. We have 9 T1s for incoming traffic from CenturyLink.

OCT 242013

# Ft Randall Telephone (dba as Mt Rushmore Telephone)

FCC Mail Room

# Functionality in Emergency Situations

#### Back-Up Power

The Company has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source. Switch, Remote, and DLCs all have minimum 8 hour battery backup. Switch and Remote have standby generators, and we have portable generators to provide power to DLC cabinets if needed.

## Rerouting of Traffic around Damaged Facilities

The Company is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Our regulated inter-exchange and intra-exchange traffic is directly connected to Century Link within our central office.

## Traffic Spikes

We have some unused switching capacity to handle sporadic traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations. We have 120 2-way trunks between Company and CenturyLink's Tandem for inter-exchange traffic. We have 5 T1s for incoming traffic from CenturyLink.

# Fort Randall Telephone Company(DBA: Mt Rushmore Telephone Company) Mail Room

## **Description of Tribal Engagement**

## For Form 481 Line 920 thru Line 929

Fort Randall Telephone Company had submitted an email on December 11, 2012 and followed up with a telephone call that same day, as a result of an email request by the Oglala Sioux Tribe for information concerning our telephone service to parts of the Pine Ridge Reservation dated September 16, 2012. During our conversation, the Utilities Commission indicated they would be in contact with us regarding any potential meeting once they have had an opportunity to review the information we provided. As of October 9, 2013, the Tribal Authority had not yet responded to the information we originally provided nor have they requested dates to allow for the scheduling of an "engagement" meeting.

In accord with provision in the FCC's USF and ICC Transformation Order, paragraphs 636 and 637, and 47 CFR 54.313(a)(9), at the meeting with the Tribal Authority, Fort Randall Telephone Company will, with tribal input, develop a needs assessment to assist with future service deployments on Tribal lands. In particular, Fort Randall Telephone Company and the Tribal Authority discussions relating to needs and service deployment will be focused on community anchor institutions. The feasibility and sustainability of communications services on tribal lands will be discussed and Fort Randall Telephone Company will with assistance with the Tribal Authority will attempt to identify additional steps that can be taken to make essential communications services deployed on Tribal lands both feasible and sustainable. Fort Randall Telephone Company and Tribal authority will also discuss and explore ways in which they can coordinate or partner to ensure that services are marketed on tribal lands in a manner that will relate to the community and resonate with consumers, with the aim of increasing service adoption. At such meeting, the Fort Randall Telephone Company will also be prepared to discuss the relevant rights-of-way and other permitting and review processes, as well as any challenges associated with these processes. And finally, Fort Randall Telephone Company will come to any such meeting prepared to discuss and engage the Tribal Authority on any relevant and applicable Tribal business and licensing requirements.

OCT 24 2013

#### Fort Randall Telephone Company

FCC Mail Room

## **Description of Tribal Engagement**

## For Form 481 Line 920 thru Line 929

Fort Randall Telephone Company had hand delivered on December 11, 2012 with a request to the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority in Marty, South Dakota for a meeting to discuss the services we presently have in parts of treaty lands around the communities of Marty and Greenwood, South Dakota. The Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority was not sure who would be contacting us, but they would be in contact with us regarding any potential meeting. Although we have had several informal meeting to discuss project both completed and planned on these lands, as of October 9, 2013, the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority had not yet responded to our request to meet nor have they requested dates to allow for the scheduling of an "engagement" meeting.

In accord with provision in the FCC's USF and ICC Transformation Order, paragraphs 636 and 637, and 47 CFR 54.313(a)(9), at the meeting with the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority, Fort Randall Telephone Company will, with tribal input, develop a needs assessment to assist with future service deployments on Tribal lands. In particular, Fort Randall Telephone Company and the Tribal Authority discussions relating to needs and service deployment will be focused on community anchor institutions. The feasibility and sustainability of communications services on tribal lands will be discussed and Fort Randall Telephone Company will with assistance with the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority will attempt to identify additional steps that can be taken to make essential communications services deployed on Tribal lands both feasible and sustainable. Fort Randall Telephone Company and Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority will also discuss and explore ways in which they can coordinate or partner to ensure that services are marketed on tribal lands in a manner that will relate to the community and resonate with consumers, with the aim of increasing service adoption. At such meeting, the Fort Randall Telephone Company will also be prepared to discuss the relevant rights-of-way and other permitting and review processes, as well as any challenges associated with these processes. And finally, Fort Randall Telephone Company will come to any such meeting prepared to discuss and engage the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority on any relevant and applicable Tribal business and licensing requirements.

## Ft Randall Telephone [Company]

FCC Mail Room

## **Lifeline Terms and Conditions**

[Company] offers Lifeline program-supported service to qualified low-income residential consumers for one telephone line per eligible household. The Lifeline program provides discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain telephone service. Lifeline assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive \$9.25 per month in discounts. In addition, the Federal Universal Service Charge is not assessed to consumers participating in Lifeline. Toll Blocking prevents the placement of all long distance calls for which a subscriber would be charged. Toll blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost. Also, by choosing this option, consumers are usually not charged a deposit.

## Lifeline Program Eligibility Information

## **Program Based Eligibility**

Consumers are eligible for Lifeline if they, one of their dependents or their household participate in one of the following qualifying assistance programs:

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
Medicaid
National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means.

Acceptable documentation of program-based eligibility includes: current or prior year's statement of benefits from a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program; notice letter of participation in a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program; program participation documents; or another official document evidencing the consumer's participation in a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program.

## Income Based Eligibility

In addition, consumers are eligible for Lifeline if their household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.

2013 Federal Poverty Guidelines - 135%

Household Size	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
4	\$15,512	\$19,373	\$17,861
2	\$20,939	\$26,163	\$24,098
3	\$26,366	\$32,954	\$30,335
<del></del>	\$31,793	\$39,744	\$36,572
4	\$37,220	\$46,535	\$42,809
5	\$42,647	\$53,325	\$49,046
6	\$48,074	\$60,116	\$55,283
	\$53,501	\$66,906	\$61,520
For each additional person, add	\$5,427	\$6,791	\$6,237

OCT 24 2013

Acceptable documentation of income eligibility includes: prior year's state, federal or Tribel Callell Room current income statement from an employer or paycheck stub; social security statement of benefits; Veterans Administration statement of benefits; retirement/pension statement of benefits; unemployment/workmen's compensation statement of benefits; federal or Tribal notice of letter participating in General Assistance; or a divorce decree or child support award or other official document containing income information.

#### **Tribal Eligibility**

A subscriber who lives on Tribal lands and is an eligible resident of Tribal lands is eligible for Tribal Lifeline service or Tribal Link Up if the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household participates in any of the above-listed qualifying assistance programs or one of the following Tribal-specific federal assistance programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance; Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met); or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). Tribal subscribers may also qualify if the household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

# Numbers of Minutes-of-Use Provided as Part of Lifeline Program Service

[Company's] Voice Lifeline service includes unlimited local minutes-of-use within the toll-free calling area. [Company's] Voice Lifeline Plan does not include any free minutes-of-use for toll. Toll is billed at the standard toll rate depending on which interexchange carrier the consumer subscribes to for toll service. As part of the Lifeline service, Toll blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost.

#### Rates

Subscribers may receive the Lifeline credit on any type or grade of local service, including bundled services that are normally offered by [Company]. Advertised rates do not include any applicable taxes or surcharges.

## Recertification of Lifeline Eligibility

Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility annually. Failure to properly recertify a recipient's continued eligibility for the Lifeline program will result in termination of the Lifeline recipient's monthly Lifeline discount and de-enrollment from the Lifeline Program.

## Additional Lifeline Program Information

The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

FCC Mail Room

# HANSON COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TOGETHER WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

**DECEMBER 31, 2012** 

## **REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

# OLSEN THIELEN & CO., LTD. Gertified Public Accountants & Consultants

Received & Inspected

OCT 24 2013

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Directors Hanson Communications, Inc. Willmar, Minnesota

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Hanson Communications, Inc. and subsidiaries, which comprise the consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

## Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## **Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Hanson Communications, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

St. Paul, Minnesota April 1, 2013 Olsen threlen + Co., LTd

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 2012 AND 2011

FCC Mail Room

ASSETS		
	2012	2011
CURRENT ASSETS: Cash and Cash Equivalents Due from Customers, Less Allowance for Uncollectibles of and and Uncollectibles of Income Tax Receivable Materials and Supplies Prepaid Expenses Total Current Assets		
INVESTMENTS AND OTHER ASSETS: Intangible Assets, Net Other Investments Other Total Investments and Other Assets		
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT: Telecommunications Plant in Service Plant Under Construction Other Property and Equipment Total Less Accumulated Depreciation Net Property, Plant and Equipment		
TOTAL ASSETS	<b>\$</b> ,	

# REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

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LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' E	QUITY	
	2012	2011
CURRENT LIABILITIES: Current Portion of Long-Term Debt Accounts Payable Payable to Affiliates Accrued Taxes Other Accrued Liabilities Advance Billings Total Current Liabilities	\$	
OTHER LIABILITIES: Long-Term Debt Other Liabilities Total Other Liabilities		
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY: Controlling Interest: Common Stock - No Par Value, Authorized; Shares Class B (Nonvoting) Authorized; Shares Class A Issued and Outstanding; Shares Class B Issued and Outstanding Paid-in Capital Retained Earnings Total Controlling Interest Noncontrolling Interest Total Stockholders' Equity		
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$	

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012 AND 2011

FCC Mail Room

1 2		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	2012	2011
OPERATING REVENUES:	s <b></b>	
Local Network	<b>a</b>	
Network Access		
Billing and Collection		
Nonregulated Telecommunications		
Cable Television		
Miscellaneous, Net		
Total Operating Revenues		
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Plant Specific		
Depreciation and Amortization		
Plant Support		
Customer		
Corporate		
Nonregulated Telecommunications		
Cable Television		
Miscellaneous		
Taxes		
Total Operating Expenses		
OPERATING INCOME	<u></u> .	
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE):		•
Loss on Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment		
Investment Income		
Interest Expense		
Income Tax Expense		
Net Other Income (Expense)		
NET INCOME		
NET LOSS ATTRIBUTABLE TO		
NONCONTROLLING INTEREST		
NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO HANSON		
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$	
COMMONION TOTAL		

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# HANSON COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

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# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY FCC Mail Room YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012 AND 2011

					······································	
	Commo	on Stock Amount	Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Noncontrolling Interest	Total
BALANCE on December 31, 2010						
Net Income (Loss) Dividends				·		
BALANÇE on December 31, 2011						
Net Income (Loss) Dividends				_		
BALANCE on December 31, 2012						

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# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012 AND 2011

FCC Mail Room

		0044
	2012	2011
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	A	
Net Income	\$	
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to Net Cash		
Provided By Operating Activities:		
Depreciation and Amortization		
Loss from Partnership Investments		
Distributions from LLC Investments		
Loss on Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment		
CoBank Patronage Refund		
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		
Due from Customers		4
Other Accounts Receivable		
Income Tax Receivable		
Prepaid Expenses		
Accounts Payable	4	
Accrued Taxes		
Other Accrued Liabilities		
Advance Billings		
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	•	·
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchases of Property, Plant and Equipment		
Salvage, Net of Cost of Plant Removal		
Purchases of Intangibles		
Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment		
(Increase) Decrease in Materials and Supplies		
Net Change in Receivable from and Payable to Affiliates	L	
Sale (Purchase) of Investments		
Other		
Net Cash Used In Investing Activities		
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Principal Payments of Long-Term Debt		
Payments on Other Liabilities		
Dividends	-	-
Net Cash Used In Financing Activities		
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
NET INCREASE (DECREAGE) IN CROTTING STORY		
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS at Beginning of Year		
	\$	
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS at End of Year	-	ه.
SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION -		
NONCASH INVESTING AND FINANCING TRANSACTION:		
Increase in Other Accrued Liabilities, Other Liabilities and		
Long-Term Debt for Property, Plant and Equipment	\$	
Long-Term Dept for Froherty, Flant and Equipment		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FCC Mail Room

# NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## **Nature of Operations**

The Company's principal line of business is providing local telephone service, internet, cable television service and access to long distance telephone service through its local exchange network. The revenues reported on the statement of income reflect the relative importance of each type of service. The principal market for these telecommunications services are local residential and business customers residing in each of the exchanges the Company serves in Minnesota, Ohio, South Dakota and Nebraska.

## **Basis of Accounting**

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America including certain accounting practices prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the state regulatory commissions in Minnesota, Ohio and South Dakota.

## **Accounting Estimates**

The presentation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## **Subsequent Events**

In preparing these financial statements, the Company has evaluated for recognition or disclosure the events or transactions that occurred through April 1, 2013, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

## Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the parent company, Hanson Communications, Inc. and its subsidiaries. All subsidiaries are wholly-owned except Dave, Bruce & S, LLC, which is owned. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in the consolidation.

## **Cash Equivalents**

The Company considers all highly liquid debt instruments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are stated at cost, which approximates fair value.

#### Receivables

Receivables are stated at the amount the Company expects to collect from outstanding balances. The Company provides for probable uncollectible amounts through charges to earnings and credits to valuation allowances based on its assessment of the current status of individual accounts. Balances that are still outstanding after the Company has used reasonable collection efforts are written off through charges to the valuation allowances and credits to the receivable accounts. Changes in the valuation allowances have not been material to the financial statements.

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# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FCC Mail Room

# NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

## **Materials and Supplies**

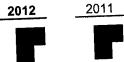
Materials and supplies are recorded at average cost.

## **Property and Depreciation**

Property and equipment are recorded at original cost. Additions, improvements or major renewals are capitalized. If telecommunication plant is sold, retired or otherwise disposed of in the ordinary course of business, the cost plus removal costs less salvage is charged to accumulated depreciation, while the original cost is credited to the asset accounts. Any gains or losses on non-telecommunications property and equipment retirements are reflected in the current year operations.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method based on estimated useful lives of five to in 2012 and forty years. Depreciation expense was is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of five to forty years. Composite depreciation rates are:

Telecommunications Plant Other Property and Equipment



## Other Investments

The equity method is used for partnership interests of greater than . Under the equity method, the Company's investment reflects the original cost and recognition of the Company's share of undistributed earnings or losses of the entity. Other long-term investments are accounted for under the cost method of accounting. This method requires the Company to periodically evaluate whether non-temporary decreases in values of the investments have occurred, and if so, to write the investments down to net realizable values. As the Company is exempt from disclosing estimated fair values, the Company does not estimate fair values for cost method investments if there are no identified events or changes in circumstances that may have a significant adverse effect on the fair values.

## Intangible Assets

Intangible assets consist of customer lists and goodwill. Intangible assets with a determinable life are amortized over the useful life. Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price of acquisitions over the fair value of the net assets acquired. As an asset with an indefinite life, goodwill is not amortized, but it is tested for impairment at least annually. In its tests, the Company has determined that the goodwill is not impaired at December 31, 2012 and 2011.

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# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FCC Mail Room

# NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

## Revenue Recognition

Revenues are recognized when earned. Interstate access revenues are based on average schedule and cost based settlements with the National Exchange Carrier Association, and universal service funds. Local network and intrastate access revenues are based on tariffs filed with the state regulatory commissions, except Fort Randall Telephone Company's intrastate access revenues are based on cost based settlements filed with the Local Exchange Carrier Association with the South Dakota Public Service Commission. Access revenues based on actual costs are estimated pending completion of final cost studies.

## **Advanced Billings**

Revenues from subscribers billed in advance are recognized when earned.

## Retirement Plan

The Company has a defined contribution profit sharing plan and contributed in 2012 and in 2011 of qualified salaries to the plan. Plan expense was \$ and \$ a

## **Presentation of Taxes Collected From Customers**

Sales, excise, and other taxes are imposed on most of the Company's sales to nonexempt customers. The Company collects the taxes from customers and remits the entire amounts to the governmental authorities. The Company's accounting policy is to exclude the taxes collected and remitted from revenues and expenses.

## **Income Taxes**

The Company has elected to have its income taxed to the shareholders under Subchapter S of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, the statements do not include a provision for income taxes other than the state minimum fee expense and built-in gains tax. Income tax refunds, net of payments, were in 2012 and income tax payments were in 2011.

The Company reviews income tax positions taken or expected to be taken in income tax returns to determine if there are any income tax uncertainties. This includes positions that the entity is not subject to income taxes as a pass-through entity. The Company recognizes tax benefits from uncertain tax positions only if it is more likely than not that the tax positions will be sustained on examination by taxing authorities, based on the technical merits of the positions. The Company has identified no significant income tax uncertainties.

The Company's federal and state income tax returns are open to tax examination for tax years 2009 through 2011.

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# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FCC Mail Room

## **NOTE 2 - OTHER INVESTMENTS**

Other investments consist of the following:

Office macamorite agree		•				
				12		
	Percent		Cumu	lative		
Company	of Ownership	Cost	Income (Loss)	Distribu- tions	Total	2011 Total
Equity Method: KTC AWS Limited Partnership Midwest AWS Limited Partnership				1		1
Cost Method: CoBank Stock Horizon Telcom, Inc. Other		\$				
Total		2007			L linos	

Subsequent to year end, Midwest AWS Limited Partnership sold their spectrum licenses.

# **NOTE 3 - INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

The Company has recorded goodwill as a result of acquiring the Telephone Service Company, Zumbrota Telephone Company, Fort Randall Telephone Company, Clara City Telephone Company, and several CATV exchanges which were added to Fort Randall Cable Systems. The purchase price of these acquisitions was allocated among the acquired assets, goodwill, non-compete agreements, and customer lists. Customer lists are being amortized over ten years.

Goodwill is reviewed for impairment at least annually or more frequently upon the occurrence of an event or when circumstances indicate that the carrying amount is greater than its fair value. In estimating fair values the Company used multiples based on a combination of market value and the present value of expected future cash inflows. The Company has determined that the goodwill as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 is not impaired.

The components of the Company's identified intangible assets are as follows:

		201	12	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Impairment	Net Balance
Unamortized Intangibles: Goodwill	\$			
Amortized Intangibles: Non-Compete Customer Lists				
Totals	\$			

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# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FCC Mail Room

NOTE 3 - INTANGI	BLE ASSETS	(Continued)
------------------	------------	-------------

NOTE 3 - INTANSIBLE AS				
		201	1	Net
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Impairment	Balance
Unamortized Intangibles: Goodwill	\$			
Amortized Intangibles:			1	•
Non-Compete				
Customer Lists	-			
Totals	<u>\$</u>			
Amortization expense is as				
Actual Amortization Expense:				\$
<b>2012</b> 2011				
Expected Amortization Expen	se:			\$.
2013				Ψ
2014				
2015				
2016				
2017				

## **NOTE 4 - ACQUISITIONS**

In 2011, the Company acquired a cable television system in southern Minnesota. The location of this system is within (or close proximity to) the Company's current customer base and will result in the ability to offer expanded services to existing and new customers. The results of operations for the acquired cable television system have been included in the Company's statement of income since the date of the acquisition.

The 2011 purchase has been accounted for using the acquisition method of accounting for a business combination. The purchase price of the central Minnesota cable television systems was cash consideration and was recognized at fair value in the acquisition:

Property, Plant and Equipment	\$
Customer Lists	\$
Purchase Price	

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# HANSON COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

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# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Long-term debt is as follows:

CoBank, ACB
PNC Equipment Finance
Total
Less Amount Due Within One Year
Long-Term Debt

The CoBank, ACB ("CoBank") note is payable in monthly installments of principal, plus interest at a variable rate. The loan is due on various dates from June 30, 2017 to June 30, 2019 and is secured by property and equipment and a pledge of stock of all subsidiaries. The interest rate was and at December 31, 2012 and 2011. Unadvanced CoBank funds were at December 31, 2012.

CoBank is a cooperative owned and controlled by its customers. Each customer borrowing from the bank on a patronage basis shares in the bank's net income through payment of patronage refunds. Patronage refunds included in investment income were in 2012 and in 2011. Approximately of patronage refunds are received in cash, with the balance in stock in the bank. The Company cannot predict what patronage refunds might be in future years.

Payments on PNC equipment are due in monthly installments between and and including interest of over the 30 day "LIBOR Rate". The interest rate was at December 31, 2012 and 2011. The note matures December 1, 2015 and is secured by the aircraft purchased in 2010.

Cash payments for interest were in 2012 and in 2011.

Principal payments required during the next five years are: 2013 - 2014 - 2015 - 2016 - 2016 - 2017 ; and 2017 .

The Company must comply with CoBank loan covenants including several financial ratios that must be met on a quarterly and annual basis. Distributions to stockholders are limited to consolidated taxable income multiplied by the highest effective Federal and State tax rates, including carryovers from the prior year.

## NOTE 6 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company does business with other companies that are related through common ownership. Intercompany transactions during the period related to wages, management and accounting, and cable and related supplies paid by one company for another. The total of these transactions was in 2012 and in 2011.

Payable to affiliates consist of liabilities to Cable Plowing, Inc. of at December 31, 2012 and at December 31, 2011. Intercompany balances do not bear interest.

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## HANSON COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## **NOTE 7 - BUY-SELL AGREEMENT**

The Company has an agreement with its stockholders and Hanson Communications Company, a management LLC owned by some of the stockholders of the Company, whereby upon the occurrence of certain events, the stockholders, Hanson Communications Company and/or the Company, shall have the right or the obligation to purchase all or part of a stockholders's common stock.

## **NOTE 8 - NONCONTROLLING INTEREST**

The net income or loss attributable to the noncontrolling members' interest represents of the net income or loss of the subsidiary, Dave, Bruce & S, LLC in 2012 and 2011.

#### **NOTE 9 - CONCENTRATIONS**

Financial instruments which potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash investments and trade receivables. The Company places its cash investments with high credit quality financial institutions and, generally limits the amount of credit exposure to any one financial institution. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to trade receivables are limited due to the Company's large number of customers and their dispersion across many different industries. As of December 31, 2012, the Company had no significant concentrations of credit risk.

A significant portion of the Company's revenues are from long distance carriers in the telephone industry, and consequently, the Company is directly affected by the financial well being of that industry. However, the credit risk associated with other accounts receivable is minimized due to the large number of long distance carriers, and historically, credit losses have not been significant.

In October 2011, the FCC approved an order on Intercarrier Compensation and Universal Service Fund (USF) reform and announced the issuance of a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on long-term USF reform and transition timing. The Company was required to reduce carrier access rates. The order also requires local service rate benchmarks for high cost support eligibility to prevent USF from supporting artificially low end user rates. In addition, the order and Proposed Rulemaking outline caps on capital expenditures and operating expenses recoverable from the Universal Service Fund. In 2012 and 2011, the Company received and of its revenues from network access, including assistance provided by the Federal Universal Service Fund.